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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

BHATIA, AJAY M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2145

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/03/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/511,631

Applicant(s)

NAKAMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Ajay M. Bhatia

Art Unit

2145

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Monroe et al. (U.S Patent Application Publication 2002/0097322).

For claim 1, Monroe teaches, an information exchange method used for furnishing, according to an instruction from a server, to terminal devices, a given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information out of a plurality of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are gathered by a plurality of information gathering devices, (Monroe, paragraphs 56, 57, camera, array)

said server being adapted to link each of said terminal devices to the information gathering device that gathers a given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are asked for from its linked terminal device, out of said plurality information gathering devices, said server being also adapted to direct the information gathering devices to deliver the given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information to their linked terminal device, (Monroe, paragraph 61, 42 real-time)

each of said terminal devices being adapted to produce video image including a given number of real-time and/or live streaming video images that are received from the predetermined number of information gathering devices and display it on a predetermined certain screen.

(Monroe, paragraph 57, array 4, 9, or 16)

For claim 2, Monroe teaches, the information exchange method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said server obtains a link destination address of the respective information gathering devices that gather the given number of real-time and/or live streaming video images that are asked for from said terminal devices and notifies said terminal devices of their corresponding link destination addresses, each of said terminal devices being adapted to access the information gathering device specified by the link destination address that is notified by said server in order to obtain a predetermined piece of real-time and/or live streaming video information. (Monroe, paragraphs 61, 42 real-time, paragraph 65, video stream address)

For claim 3, Monroe teaches, the information exchange method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said server makes a request to each of the information gathering devices that gather a given number of real-time and/or live streaming video images that are asked for from each of said terminal devices, said information gathering devices being adapted to supply real-time and/or live streaming video information to their linked terminal devices in response to a request from said server. (Monroe, paragraphs 61,42, real-time, paragraph 57, 4,9,16)

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For claim 4, Monroe teaches, the information exchange method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said server sends a link destination setting table to each of said terminal devices, the link destination setting table containing links to said information gathering devices, each of said terminal devices accesses its linked information gathering device(s) according to the link destination setting table. (Monroe, paragraph 72, 61, stations, group list, paragraph 88, camera ID)

For claim 5, Monroe teaches, the information exchange method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said server or said information gathering devices hold(s) the link destination setting table that has been sent to each of said terminal devices, each of said terminal devices being adapted to send the link destination setting table to said server or said information gathering devices upon access to its linked information gathering device(s), said server or said information gathering devices comparing the link destination setting table that is held therein with the link destination setting table that is sent from said terminal devices upon access to their linked information gathering devices in order to control access by said terminal devices. (Monroe, paragraph 61, display station)

For claim 6, Monroe teaches, the information exchange method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said information gathering device is a content server that provides a desired content to said terminal device. (Monroe, paragraph 61, video)

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For claim 7, Monroe teaches, an information processor used for furnishing, to terminal devices, a given number of pieces of streaming video information out of a plurality of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are gathered by a plurality of information gathering devices, comprising:

acceptance means for accepting a request from each of said terminal devices; (Monroe, paragraph 61, video)

and linking means for linking each of said terminal devices to the information gathering device that gathers a given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are asked for from its linked terminal device, out of said plurality of information gathering devices, in response to a request that has been accepted by said acceptance means from each of said terminal devices. (Monroe, paragraph 61, 42 real-time video, paragraph 65, address)

For claim 8, Monroe teaches, the information exchange device as claimed in claim 7, comprising link destination setting table sending means for sending, to each of said terminal devices, a link destination setting table having link destinations, each of said terminal devices being permitted to link to said information gathering devices that are specified by said link destinations. (Monroe, paragraph 72, 61, stations, group list, paragraph 88, camera ID)

For claim 9, Monroe teaches, the information exchange device as claimed in claim 8, comprising access control means that holds the link destination setting table that has been sent to each of said terminal devices, said access control means comparing the link destination setting table that is held therein with the link destination setting table that is sent from said terminal devices upon

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access to their linked information gathering devices in order to control access by said terminal devices. (Monroe, paragraph 72, 61, stations, group list, paragraph 88, camera ID)

For claim 10, Monroe teaches, an information processor for displaying a selected given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information out of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are gathered by a plurality of information gathering devices, comprising:

linking means for establishing a link to the information gathering device that gathers a given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are asked for, out of said plurality of information gathering devices; (Monroe, paragraph 61,42, real-time)

and display control means that produces video image including a given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are received from a predetermined number of real-time and/or live information gathering devices to which links are established by said linking means and displays it on a predetermined certain screen. (Monroe, paragraph85, array screen)

For claim 11, Monroe teaches, the information processor as claimed in claim 10, wherein said linking means establishes a link according to a link destination setting table having link destinations to which link is permitted, out of said information gathering devices. (Monroe, paragraph 72, 61, stations, group list, paragraph 88, camera ID)

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For claim 12, Monroe teaches, an information processor used for furnishing, to terminal devices, a given number of pieces of streaming video information out of a plurality of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are gathered by a plurality of information gathering devices, comprising:

acceptance means for accepting a request from each of said terminal devices; (Monroe, paragraph 61, video server)

and directing means that directs a given number of information gathering devices corresponding to said terminal devices to send the given number of pieces of streaming video information, in response to a request that has been accepted by said acceptance means from each of said terminal devices. (Monroe, paragraph 85, video array)

For claim 13, Monroe teaches, an information processor for displaying a given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are asked for to a server, out of a plurality of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information that are gathered by a plurality of information gathering devices, comprising:

requesting means that asks for a given number of pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information to said server; (Monroe, paragraph 61, 42 real-time)

and display control means that is adapted to receive a given number of pieces of real-time and or live streaming video information that are asked for, from the corresponding information gathering device(s) in response to a request from said server, and adapted to produce video image including the pieces of real-time and/or live streaming video information and display it on a predetermined certain screen. (Monroe, paragraphs 61 , 42 real-time, paragraph 85, 2x2 screen)

For claim 14, Monroe teaches, an information gathering system comprising:

a plurality of information gathering devices that gather real-time and/or live streaming video information; (Monroe, paragraph 61, video)

and a server which is adapted to accept a request from a terminal device and to link said terminal device to the information gathering device that gathers the real-time and/or live streaming video information that is asked for from said terminal device, said server being also adapted to direct said information gathering device to send the real-time and/or live streaming video information to said terminal device. (Monroe, paragraph 85, video screen)

For claim 15, Monroe teaches, the information gathering system as claimed in claim 14, wherein said server sends a link destination setting table to said terminal device, the link destination setting table containing links to said information gathering devices, said terminal device accesses its linked information gathering device(s) according to the link destination setting table.

(Monroe, paragraph 72, 61, stations, group list, paragraph 88, camera ID)

For claim 16, Monroe teaches, the information gathering system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said server or said information gathering devices hold(s) the link destination setting table that has been sent to said terminal device, said terminal device being adapted to send the link destination setting table to said server or said information gathering devices upon access to its linked information gathering device(s), said server or said information gathering devices comparing the link destination setting table that is held therein with the link destination setting table that is sent

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from said terminal device upon access to its linked information gathering device(s) in order to control access by said terminal device. (Monroe, paragraph 72, 61, stations, group list, paragraph 88, camera ID)

For claim 17, Monroe teaches, an information gathering system comprising:

a plurality of information gathering devices that gather real-time and/or live streaming video information; (Monroe, paragraph 61, real-time)

and a server which is adapted to accept a request from a terminal device and to direct the information gathering device that gathers real-time and/or live streaming video information that is asked for from said terminal device, to send the real-time and/or live streaming video information to said terminal device. (Monroe, paragraph 61, real-time, paragraph 65 address)

For claim 18, Monroe teaches, the information gathering system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said server sends a link destination setting table to said terminal device, the link destination setting table containing links to said information gathering devices, said terminal device accesses its linked information gathering device(s) according to the link destination setting table.

(Monroe, paragraph 72, 61, stations, group list, paragraph 88, camera ID)

For claim 19, Monroe teaches, the information gathering system as claimed in claim 18, wherein said server or said information gathering devices hold(s) the link destination setting table that has been sent to said terminal device, said terminal device being adapted to send the link destination setting table to said server or said information gathering devices upon access to its linked

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information gathering device(s), said server or said information gathering devices comparing the link destination setting table that is held therein with the link destination setting table that is sent from said terminal device upon access to its linked information gathering device(s) in order to control access by said terminal device. (Monroe, paragraph 72, 61, stations, group list, paragraph 88, camera ID)

For claim 20, Monroe teaches, a content presentation program that directs a computer to execute:

a content acquisition step to acquire a content on each of predetermined channels;

(Monroe, paragraph 85, 2x2)

and a display control step to cause the content that is acquired in the first step to be displayed in a window that is determined previously for said channels, out of a plurality of display sections that are defined within a predetermined window. (Monroe, paragraph 85 2x2 videos)

For claim 21, Monroe teaches, an information processor that causes a content to be displayed on a display unit, comprising:

content acquisition means for acquiring a content on each of predetermined channels;

(Monroe, paragraph 85, array)

and display control means that causes the content that is acquired in the first step to be displayed in a window that is determined previously for said channels, out of a plurality of display sections that are defined within a predetermined window. (Monroe, paragraph 85, array)

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For claim 22, Monroe teaches, an information processing method comprising:

a content acquisition step to acquire a content on each of predetermined channels;

(Monroe, paragraph 85, array)

and a display control step to cause the content that is acquired in the first step to be displayed in a window that is determined previously for said channels, out of a plurality of display sections that are defined within a predetermined window. (Monroe, paragraph 85, array)

For claim 23, Monroe teaches, a communication method for transmitting packets between a client and a server through a plurality of intermediary devices, comprising:

performing communications more than once by using a certain command between said client and said server; (Monroe, paragraph 79, resolution)

measuring a communication performance during said communications; (Monroe, paragraph 84, bandwidth)

detecting a communication route of said certain command by adding the addresses of the intermediary devices to said certain command on an add-per-passage basis; (Monroe, paragraph 81, select primary)

and performing communications between said client and said server through the communication route which yields the maximum communication performance with respect to said communication route. (Monroe, paragraph 82, available bandwidth)

For claim 24, Monroe teaches, an intermediary device which intermediates a client and a server, comprising:

command detection means for detecting a certain command that is transmitted between said client and said server; (Monroe, paragraph 81, button)

route information detection means for detecting route information contained in communication data that are transmitted between said client and said server; (Monroe, paragraph 81, button)

and intermediacy control means which is adapted to send said certain command to a network after adding its local address to it when said certain command is detected, said intermediacy control means relaying the communication data when its local address is contained in the route information detected by said route information detection means. (Monroe, paragraph 88, camera ID)

For claim 25, Monroe teaches, a communication system for performing communications between a client and a server through a network, comprising:

bypassing means which allows communication between said client and said server while bypassing said network. (Monroe, paragraph 65, address)

For claim 26, Monroe teaches, the communication system as claimed in claim 25, comprising:

measuring means for measuring a communication performance between said client and said server; (Monroe, paragraph 82 available bandwidth)

and communication control means that causes said bypassing means to bypass said network when the communication performance measured by said measuring means is lowered under a certain level. (Monroe, paragraph 82, capable resolution)

For claim 27, Monroe teaches, a communication system for performing communications between a client and a server through a network, wherein said server comprises a node server adapted to accept a request from said client; (Monroe, paragraph 61, server)

and a content server adapted to send, to said client, a content that is asked for by said client in answer to a request from said node server. (Monroe, paragraph 61, server)

For claim 28, Monroe teaches, a communication system for performing communications between a client and a server through a network, wherein said server comprises a content server which provides a content to said client; (Monroe, paragraph 61, server)

and a node server adapted to accept a request from said client and to provide said client with link destination information of said content server that stores a content that is asked for by said client; (Monroe, paragraphs 93,94, mode)

said client being adapted to ask for a content to said content server according to the link destination information from said node server. (Monroe, paragraphs 93,94, mode)

For claim 29, Monroe teaches, the communication system as claimed in claim 28, wherein said node server has a hierarchical structure based on said content or its link destination; (Monroe,)

said node server having a function to backup information about contents managed by node servers at upper and lower levels. (Monroe, paragraph 93,94, mode)

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For claim 30, Monroe teaches, a communication device for performing communications with a client through a network, said communication device being adapted to provide a content to said client by means of accessing a content server that provides content in answer to a request from said client, comprising:

 caching means for caching contents in said content server according to the frequency of accesses from said client; (Monroe, paragraph 93,94, mode)

 said communication device being adapted to send, to said client, a cached content in answer to a request from said client. (Monroe, paragraph 93,94, mode)

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached Notice of references cited (if appropriate).

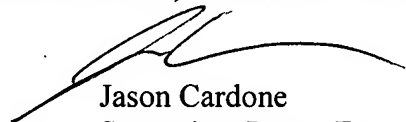
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ajay M. Bhatia whose telephone number is (571)-272-3906. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on (571)272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AB


Jason Cardone
Supervisor Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2145